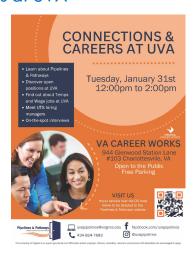




Updates from the Office of Economic Development

Connections & Careers at UVA

UVA Pipelines & Pathways will be hosting a hiring and information event at VA Career Works, 944 Glenwood Station Lane #103 from Noon to 2pm on Tuesday, January 31, 2023. Learn about UVA's Pipelines & Pathways initiative, discover open positions at UVA, find out about Temps and Wage jobs at UVA, meet hiring managers and participate in onthe-spot interviews. The event provides free parking and is open to the public. Click here to learn more.



Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Development Underway

A Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) is being developed for the City of Charlottesville and the counties of Albemarle, Fluvanna, Greene, Louisa, and Nelson. The CEDS process will engage public, private, and nonprofit sector partners to establish a strategic blueprint for regional economic collaboration and to build capacity and guide economic prosperity and resilience of the region. Once complete, the CEDS will enable additional federal funding to be accessed by local jurisdictions for a variety of purposes. The Thomas Jefferson Planning District Commission (TJPDC) is leading this effort with support from Camoin Assoiciates. The plan is expected to be complete in early 2024.

OED is currently looking for interest from a city based private sector participant to serve on the strategy committee. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please let us know <u>here</u>

Workforce Development Rankings

Site Selection Magazine recently released their 2023 Regional Workforce Development Rankings and Virginia placed first in the South Atlantic region, followed by North Carolina and Florida. A variety of components were used to determine the rankings, including CNBC's America's Top States for Business, 2022 Workforce sub-ranking, and U.S. New's 2021 Best States for Education ranking. While the rankings do not reflect which states in a region have the most effective workforce training programs or labor boards, it is a high-level measure of state's workforce development climates. Programs and resources for job seekers are often the best way for companies to incorporate workforce development into their site searches. This is the second year in a row that Virginia has placed first. To see all of the rankings, click here

Community MLK Celebration

The UVA Division for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will be hosting a Community MLK Celebration. The event will have Dr. Yaba Blay as



the guest speaker. She is a scholar-activist, public speaker, and cultural consultant whose scholarship, work, and practice centers on the lived experiences of Black women and girls, with a particular focus on identity/body politics and beauty practices. This event will be at Paramount Theatre on January 26, at 6:00PM. Click here to register.

Art on the Downtown Mall

Charlottesville K - 12 students are interested in moving their annual Spring Art Show downtown and are seeking downtown businesses interested in displaying art in their stores this May 2023. CCPS will run the entire event including all art installations. This partnership is intended to bring families downtown and into downtown shops. Each participating business will be featured on a map going to Charlottesville City students and a family day downtown. If your business is interested in participating, please click <u>here</u>

Community Climate Collaborative (C3), Energy Efficiency Grant

C3 will be awarding grants to small, minority-owned businesses to be used for energy efficiency upgrades (appliances, lighting, heating/cooling systems, etc.). Their goal is to help these businesses achieve emissions reductions and financial savings through capital investment, up to \$2,500 per applicant. The Office of Economic Development and the Economic Development Authority are sponsors of these grants. To learn more about the energy efficiency grant please click here

Friends of Charlottesville Downtown to Hold Flower Planter Competition

Friends of Charlottesville will be hosting a plant/flower market and a planter competition this May. This event is part of a May festival that will drive tourism and commerce downtown. All downtown businesses are encouraged to participate in this competition and help FCD make downtown more beautiful. To sign up for the competition, please click <u>here</u>

Lampo Neapolitan Pizzeria Is a Taste of Italy

The online magazine "OnlyInYourState" wrote a great piece about the restaurant Lampo Neapolitan Pizzeria in Belmont. The author stated "If you enjoy quality pizza made from the finest local ingredients, you owe it to yourself to visit Lampo". Read the full article here



OED Fun Fact



January is considered the coldest month of the year in the Northern Hemisphere. In Charlottesville, January has the least rainfall (1.6 inches) of any month and the lowest average temperatures (the average daily high temperature is 41 degrees and the low is 26 degrees).

Upcoming Events

CIC Entrepreneur Workshop

Take your business to the next level! This hands-on course enables entrepreneurs to determine whether their business is viable, develop an initial plan for launching or growing their business and learn the fundamentals of how to act on that plan.



Applications are now being accepted for the Spring 2023 class. For more information click <u>here</u>.

Free Business Resources



The Albemarle County & City of Charlottesville Buy Local campaign highlights small businesses within the Charlottesville-Albemarle area through a multi-channel, multimedia promotional and educational campaign. To learn more about the campaign, click here!



The Central Virginia Small Business
Development Center is a team of
business and technical experts
available to advise and assist
entrepreneurs, confidentially and free of
charge. They offer 1:1 assistance,
curated research, access to technical
experts and professionals, and timely
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